

Letter from Rappahannock.

Correspondence of the Alexandria Gazette.
WASHINGTON, RAPPANNOCK CO., VA.,
July 13, 1858.—Yesterday, James H. Johnson, charged with poisoning his wife, had his examination before the County Court, and was sent on to the Circuit Court for trial, at the October term.

The counsel for the prisoner made no defence, stating for their reason that the high state of public feeling now existing against the prisoner, would seem to require at the hands of the Court, that they should remand the prisoner for further trial.

The largest crowd was assembled to hear the trial, ever known in this county—but no demonstration of violence was made—every thing passed off quietly excepting a few private fights—Johnny Barleymore possibly was at the bottom of them.

Johnson has retained the services of Hon. Wm. Smith, Robert E. Scott, H. G. Moffitt, W. H. Hickey, and E. T. Jones, Esqrs., to defend him at the final trial, at which time possibly some if not all of the dark and suspicious circumstances surrounding the case, will be explained to the satisfaction of unprejudiced minds.

The prospect for corn in this county, is excellent.

A LOOKER ON.

[COMMUNICATED.]

Having seen it stated in a new-paragraph in the Gazette, that a young man was arrested at the Keswick Depot, in this county, by the U. S. mail agent, on a charge of illegally opening letters passing through the mails, I respectfully request that you will publish the following statement, which appears in the Charlottesville Advocate.

W.

Albemarle County, July 12, 1858.
The Keswick post office is the distributing office for several post offices in Fluvanna. Young Taylor was acting as deputy postmaster at that office for his brother, who lies dangerously ill. In opening the mail a few days since he came across a package addressed to Mrs. Mary P. Taylor, Boyd's Tavern, which he opened, thinking it was for his mother, Mrs. Mary P. Taylor, who was then at Keswick, attending to her sick son. As soon as he opened it, and discovered his mistake, he turned to a gentleman who was sitting in the office, and remarked that he had opened through mistake a package intended for a through passenger. He then re-closed it, and having written upon the cover that he had opened it through mistake, sent it to its proper destination. These facts soon got to the ear of the Special Agent of the Post Office Department, and Taylor was arrested and brought to jail.

The Jeffersonian says that the Agent has had his eye upon Taylor for the last fifteen months, in consequence of several losses and parcels that time, between this office and myra. This is probably an error, as I am informed that the accused has never been engaged at the Keswick office more than four months, and any losses prior to that period must have been taken place under the management of some of his predecessors.

MARRIED.

On the 6th inst., by the Rev. Thos. Wheeler, the bride's father, Mr. JOHN HUNTER, of Prince George's county, Md., and Miss LIZZIE WHEELER, of Dinwiddie county, Va.

OBITUARY.

Then, at his residence, (Mt. Calvert), on the Patuxent, near Marlboro, Md., on Tuesday morning, a little after 12 o'clock, A. M., Capt. JOHN BROOKES, having nearly completed the 71st year of his age.

He was one of the oldest citizens of this neighborhood, and has been for many years well and widely known and respected. He was a distinguished officer in the war of 1812, in the course of which he saw considerable service. Subsequently, he was engaged extensively in the mercantile business in this place, which he pursued for many years, and up to the time of purchasing his estate of Mt. Calvert, on which he has always subsequently resided.

He was a man of fine sense, of great decision of character, and was distinguished not less for integrity than for his uniform devotion to high-toned principle. He possessed an unflinching courage of demeanor to all men; was kind and generous in disposition, and prone to deeds of charity and benevolence by his very nature. In the course of a long life, he has never been known to do wrong to any man, and there exists no one who can now point to any instance in which he did not act as became a man of honor and integrity.

An old resident in the community, he has known from their infancy most of those who will gather round his grave. But very few remain who might be called his contemporaries. To the old and young alike, he acted with more devotedness and respect. No man was ever more companionable, or more loved and respected by his fellows, of all ages and conditions. Together with his high physical energies and his commanding personal presence, which he retained to the last, despite the approach of age, he also preserved the natural energy and vivacity of his mind, and his overflowing goodness of heart, which ever rendered him conspicuous in the social circle, and a general favorite in the community.

Through a long life he has faithfully performed all the varied duties that demanded his care. In his earlier manhood he served his country with fidelity and credit, and in every private station and pursuit, has been an example of a high-toned, public spirited and most useful citizen. In the domestic relations, none was ever more devoted or beloved, and a neighbor and friend, the place he has so well filled will hardly soon be supplied to those who enjoyed his daily intercourse. And, to all his natural fine qualities, there was added the faithful and sincere performance of Christian duties, that now dignify his memory, and bring consolation to those on whom his loss will most heavily fall.

His death will not be the less lamented on account of its comparative unexpectedness; for though he had passed his "three score and ten," his vigorous frame and robust health gave hope of his vigorous years of usefulness. By the whole community will his decease be deplored; and his memory will long live, cherished in the hearts of those who approached his years, and of those also who, growing up in his time, have never known him but as an object of veneration and esteem.—*Platner's Ad.*

Disks, at Longevity, Charles county, Md., on the 15th ult., CAROLINE E. PYLE, relict of the late John A. Pyle, in the 66th year of her age. In her life she exemplified the most beautiful and attractive of the virtues. She was a kind mother, an affectionate wife, and a sincere Christian.

At Salem, Fauquier county, Va., on the 10th inst. Mr. THOMAS ALLEN, in the 60th year of his age—a highly respectable, and deserving citizen, and esteemed by all who knew him.

FISH! FISH!—To arrive in a few days, a lot of prime New Eastern HERRING, in very fine order.

600 barrels HERRING. For sale by J. W. ALEWIS. For sale by LEWIS MCKENZIE.

NATIONAL GUARDS.—A further supply of this popular brand of choice Havana Segars, just received, and for sale by JOHN A. MILBURN, Druggist.

N. E. cor. of King and Wash sts.

DESTRUCTION TO RATS AND MICE by the use of Lyon's Magnetic Pills, the use of which are attended with trouble or danger, a full supply, received, and for sale at

MILBURN'S Drug Store.

TAK AND PITCH.—Just received 25 bbls. Tar, and 30 bbls. Pitch, all in good order, and for sale by NATH. BOUSH.

No. 3, Irwin's Wharf.

5 BARRELS SHORE OIL, for sale low, by J. W. KINCHLOE & BRUN.

Wrong Conviction.

One of the most remarkable cases in the whole history of English criminal law was the trial and conviction of Mr. Barber, the solicitor, at the Old Bailey, in April, 1844, on a charge of forgery. He was sentenced to transportation for life, and was sent to Norfolk Island, at that time the worst of penal colonies. Mr. Barber suffered great misery from the character and conduct of his associates—the worst in the three kingdoms. Late, extraordinary circumstances have led to the proof of his innocence followed by a "free pardon," and his return to England. Of course, his conviction led to the disappearance of his name from the roll of attorneys practising in the superior courts, and when he came back his restoration to the list was the first object of his solicitude. Even this was uphill work. But every step which he made in his endeavors to raise himself to the position from which he had been so iniquitously and unexpectedly hurled, only served to place the proof of his innocence and the injustice of which he had been the victim in a stronger light, until at length the Court of Queen's Bench, by its unanimous decision in his favor, showed how cruelly Mr. Barber had been treated by society through its legal and accredited agent. A committee of the House of Commons have moved to indemnify him for his losses.

The Peaks of Otter.
Have you ever visited the noble Otter Peaks of Otter? They are among the most sublime jobs that Nature ever turned out of her shop and to look at them makes a man feel how insignificant he is. Really, you can have no idea of their grandeur unless you see them. All the poetry, and prose, and bombast, and hifalutin in the world would never convey an adequate idea of the sublimity of the scene. Isolated as it were from all association, they stand out in bold relief against the western sky, just as though the hand of Omnipotence had formed and then dropped them, and became to monuments of his power, and became to point men to a better and purer sphere.

For more than twenty miles, as you dart along the rail, you have them in view. Now they seem to be moving back in the distance, and now approaching as if they would run over and crush you. Now they are behind you; now at your side, and now before you; and as their appearance changes, you wonder if they are not great giants stalking about "seeking whom they may devour."

Swindling a Postmaster.
Mr. Israel Stevens, postmaster of Kitchie C. H., Virginia, having learned that Dr. E. Andrews, of Albany, N. Y., was the proprietor of a wonderful charm whereby anyone could win the affections of the opposite sex, enclosed two dollars to him for one of the same, receiving in return a small package of four labelled "Love powders." Mr. Stevens received information that Dr. Andrews possessed charming rings, belts, and such trash. He accordingly despatched another two dollars, and in time received two small round pieces of tin fastened to a copper wire. Mr. Stevens by this time found out that Dr. Andrews was a swindler in everything, and consequently laid the matter before the proper authorities. Sergeant Birney has the matter in hand, and will no doubt recover the four dollars, and break up the establishment.—*New York Day Book.*

Letters from Oregon confirm the defeat of Col. Steptoe's command by the Indians. The officers killed were Capt. Taylor and Lieut. Gaston. The troops were caught in ambush by the Indians. The full particulars are not given.

The Secretary of State, who has for several days past been prevented by indisposition from being at his office, has so far recovered as to be able to resume his duties.

Postmaster General Brown left Washington city, yesterday, for a visit of several weeks in Tennessee.

Secretary Toucey, of the Navy Department, who has been quite ill, had improved in health yesterday.

COMMERCIAL.

THE MARKET.

BALTIMORE, July 15.—Flour is in good demand; Howard street and Ohio \$4.37; City Mills \$4.25. Wheat is unchanged; new red at 110¢/113¢; new white 110¢/112¢. Corn firm and buoyant; white 85¢; yellow 84¢/85¢. Whiskey is still at 24¢/25¢.

NEW YORK, July 15.—Flour is quiet; sales of 10,000 bbls.; State closed at \$3.60/\$3.87; Ohio \$4.00/\$4.75. Wheat is buoyant; sales of 35,000 bush; none but lower grades sold; prices for fair and prime are nominal. Corn is firm; sales of 10,000 bush; landing at \$7.00/7.05. Pork is unchanged; mess \$16.75/\$16.87; prime \$13.75. Whiskey is steady at 23¢/24¢. Stocks are higher and firm. Va. 6's 93. Va. 6's 84.

The New York Bank statement of this week, shows a large increase in the specie line, with another semi-monthly instalment from California.

On about due. The discount line has decreased during the week nearly a million, which is principally owing to the large payments made by the banks on the 1st to the 4th of July, when the banks have been unable to reloan in the present scarcity of good paper in the market.

The sub-treasury has a balance of nearly five and a half millions, in all funds. The hope is indulged that there will be a material increase in business as the time for opening the fall trade arrives.

Official information has been received at the State Department in Washington, from the United States Consul at St. John's, Porto Rico, that by the new tariff of the Island, the duties on several articles of produce of the United States are increased.

On sugar, \$2 per 100 lbs.; on shingles, 50 cents per 1,000; on butter, 50 cents per 100 lbs.; on cheese, 50 cents per 100 lbs.; on hams, 75 cents per 100 lbs.

ALMANAC.

PORT OF ALEXANDRIA.—JULY 15

ARRIVED.

Schr. Embark, Donahoe, Philadelphia, to S. Shinn.

Sailed.

Schr. Blanche, Delap, Barbados, by B. H. Lambert.

HOCK AND SODA.—I have just procured a very superior article of Hock and Soda, and am now ready to supply the public with Hock and Soda, which is both a healthy and delicious drink.

WILLIAM A. HART, No. 109, King street, cor. of Pitt.

Sign of the Golden Mortar.

SYRUP OF DEWBERRY ROOT.—A pleasant and valuable Tonic and Astringent in Summer Complaint or Diarrhoea. Prepared by DR. R. H. STABLER.

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By Yesterday Evening's Mail.

LETTER FROM JUDGE SUMMERS.—Judge George W. Summers, of Kanawha, was invited to a participation in a grand celebration of the National Anniversary near Maysville, Kentucky, at which John J. Crittenden and himself were to be the orators.—Judge Summers was compelled to decline the honor, and in a letter announcing the fact he said:

"I would rejoice to have it in my power to attend the contemplated gathering of sound conservators and patriots, on the occasion referred to. I should especially delight to meet Mr. J. Crittenden, the noblest specimen of a true-hearted gentleman, and of a wise and enlightened statesman, to be found within the broad limits of the Union. The simplicity and truthfulness of his whole life, his fidelity to the Constitution, and his devotion to the perpetuity of the Union, makes him the man for the time. I believe his services to the country are better appreciated at this moment than ever before. Would that I could tender him, in person, the homage of my admiration, next week, in his own Kentucky. He is, in fact, a Kentucky-Virginian, for he was born when your State was a county of Virginia, and within the limits of that county."

CULPETER ITEMS.—The examination of Jas. Johnson, at the last Rappahannock Court, (Monday,) charged with the murder of his wife, by the administration of strychnine, resulted in his being sent on to the Circuit Court for further trial. Letters that had passed between him and the unfortunate girl, to marry whom, he murdered his wife, were read in court, fully proving their mutual guilt in every thing but the manner of the crime. The girl seemed decidedly opposed. The excitement against the prisoner was very great.

The Grocery of Mr. Thomas Sherman, of this place, was entered, on Monday night, last, by cutting out a pane of glass, and taking the fastening from over the window, and robbed of some \$14, in specie. No notes were taken, nor goods of any description. Pretty modest for a thief.

The protracted drought in this section of the county, was broken on Monday last, by gentle and abundant showers of rain.—*Blue Ridge Rep.*

ACCIDENT AT STRIBLING SPRINGS, VA.—A correspondent of the Staunton Spectator, of the 13th inst., says:—"Mr. John Tebbis, a visitor here from Woodville, Albemarle county, met with a painful accident on the 9th. While out walking with a party of friends, he picked up a small stone and threw it at some object near him, and in doing so, broke his right arm just above the elbow. He was carried by his friends to his room near by, where he received medical aid from Dr. A. Berkeley, who set the broken limb. Mr. T. suffered intense pain, and was quite sick some time after the accident occurred."

RICHMOND ITEMS.—There was a heavy rain in Richmond, on Tuesday night. Mr. Wm. S. Smith, a highly esteemed citizen, died at the Hot Springs, on Monday. Two old houses tumbled down on Tuesday—but hurt no body.

REGENTS.—Mrs. Achille Murat, of Florida, has been appointed Regent of the Mount Vernon Association for Florida, Mrs. Greenbough, widow of the sculptor, is the Regent in Massachusetts.

MONEY FOR MOUNT VERNON.—Mrs. W. J. Eve, Vice Regent for Georgia, for the Mount Vernon fund, has raised for the tomb of Washington, \$1,314, raising the list with one hundred dollars on her own account.

ERASMUS STRIBLING, of Augusta county, died at the age of 80, at the house of a relative in Mason county, on Tuesday. The Staunton Vindicator announces the event under the caption of "A good man gone."

Rev. E. E. Wiley, President of Emory & Henry College, Va., has been appointed President of the Methodist Central College, in Howard county, Mo.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ALEXANDRIA COUNTY, VA., May 22, 1858.

—This cause coming on to be heard, &c.,

—The Court doth recommend the report of the master Commissioner in this cause to the same or any other of the Commissioners of this Court for a further report, and doth direct, that the Commissioner after due advertisement for the creditors of Richard B. Alexander, dec'd., to present their claims, shall, in addition to the claims heretofore reported take an account of and report all other outstanding claims against the estate of Richard B. Alexander, dec'd., and the said Commissioner shall, by his advertisement, give notice that all creditors of the said Richard B. Alexander, who shall not within the time specified by him present their accounts, will be excluded from the benefit of any future decree in this cause.

In pursuance of the decree rendered in the above named case, on the 23d of May, 1858, from which the foregoing is a true extract, the undersigned hereby notifies all the creditors of Richard B. Alexander, dec'd., who have not already filed with him their claims, verified by affidavit, that the same must be verified as aforesaid, and filed with him at his office on Royal street, on or before Saturday, the 11th day of September next, and all creditors whose claims are not so filed, will be excluded from the benefit of any future decree which may be rendered in said cause. S. FERGUSON BEACH, Master Commissioner of the Circuit Court of Alexandria County, Virginia.

MORE NEW BOOKS.—*Book and Tale on Insanity*—A manual of Psychological Medicine, including the History, Nosology, Description, Statistics, Diagnosis, Pathology, and Treatment of Insanity, with an Appendix of Cases, by John Charles Bucknill and Daniel H. Torke, M. D., of the Royal Retreat for the Insane. Price 8s.

The Problem of Life, or Religion and Society in Germany, by Henry W. Chastens, 4to. A Trifolium, or What the Noods Talk About, by Gustavus Bu Pittz, translated from the German by Henry W. Chastens, 4to.

School Education in Germany, by Henry W. Chastens, 6 cts. Just published, and for sale by

ROBERT BELL.

NOTICE.—The Stockholders of the Upperville and Manassas Gap Railroad Company, are hereby notified to meet on Upperville, on pay, on the 1st Monday in August, at 3 o'clock, P. M., for the purpose of electing a President and Directors for the ensuing year. By order of the Board: FRANK L. FRED, Treasurer U. & M. G. P. R. Co.

VINEGAR.—Two bbls. No. 1 Vinegar, for Pickling and Table use, on hand, and for sale by WILLIAM A. HART.

No. 109, King street, cor. of Pitt.

Sign of the Golden Mortar.

CASES of genuine Sperm Candles, in fancy boxes; also, 5 boxes of Hotel Candles, 14s, just received, and for sale by L. M. McCORMICK.

Theatre Building.

NEW article of Reed for Hoops; boiled in oil, very durable, and probably the best Hoop ever offered for sale, just received at

RICHARDS, 110 King street.

FISH! FISH!—Another supply, just received—100 bbls. Alewives.

175 bbls. Eastport Herring, for sale on accommodating terms, by

ROBINSON & PAYNE.

FOR NEW YORK.—The pocket Schir

BY BELL, Ryder, will sail on Saturday, for the above port. For freight, apply to JAMES C. NEVETT.

PORTLAND SYRUP.—100 bbls. Portland SYRUP, this day landing, and for sale by GRAY, MILLER & CO., corner of King and Water sts.

GRANT BARGAINS.—From this we will sell off for cash, our entire stock of BONNETS, without regard to cost.

By J. W. MEYERBERG, Sarepta Hall, No. 15, Eastport.

BOXES JACKSON'S MOULD CANDLES, for summer use, just received and for sale by

MARSHALL & WARD.

WHITE MARSHALL'S CAPES, for Misses just received, and for sale low at S. & W. MEYERBERG'S.

Sarepta Hall.

CURCASSIAN LIQUID HAIR DYE—A full supply, on hand, and for sale by DR. R. H. STABLER.

No. 105, King st. cor. of Washington.

BOILING CLOTHS.—A full assortment of Boiling Anchor Boiling Cloths, just received by Express, for sale by L. M. McCORMICK.

Theatre Building.

TIERRAS of very superior Sugar Cured

Canvassed Hams; just received, and for sale by L. M. McCORMICK.

Theatre Building.

100 bbls. No. 1 EASTPORT HERRING, for sale by

KINCHLOE & BRUN.

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LOCAL ITEMS.

THE CHESAPEAKE AND OHIO CANAL.—A letter was received yesterday at the Canal office, in this city, from Mr. Stone, the Superintendent of the Canal, which states that he expected to pass boats at dam No. 4 on the 14th instant; that is to say, yesterday.—*Nat. Ed.*

THE CANAL.—We are happy to state, on reliable information, that the canal is now in complete navigable order throughout its entire length. The cribs at Dam No. 4 have all been put in and firmly secured. The bars and slides have all been removed and the whole work put in better order than it has been for several years. But more, should they conclude to resume operations, will find the work as we represent.—*Cumt. Ed.*

MOUNT VERNON ROAD.—An entirely new road is now being constructed from this city to and beyond Mount Vernon, which, when completed—as it is likely to be within a year—will be one of the most desirable roads for a ride or drive in the country. It begins at the depot of the Orange and Alexandria Railroad, and crossing the Hunting Creek Bridge—which will be raised three feet, and reconstructed at a cost of \$3,000—will be continued on the east side of the old road, about a mile only of which is to be used as a part of the new one. The whole cost of the road will be \$30,000, of which the enterprising contractors, J. & J. H. Tuttle & Co., of Philadelphia, take a moiety, with a guarantee of 6 per cent. thereon out of the first net earnings of the road. The residue of the stock has been mostly taken by the land owners along the route, all of whom very generously devoted the necessary land, and will, at their own cost, construct all necessary fences. The Messrs. Johnson take \$2,000 worth of stock—the bridge, of which they were owners, being rated as a part thereof, at \$1,100, though it cost their father \$2,000, and was built fifty years ago, at a cost of \$18,000. The road, after leaving the bridge, will form nearly a straight line to Gum Spring, about two miles north from Mount Vernon; passing, for some two miles, through the Washington estate, and terminating, for the present, at Accotink, four miles south of Mr. Vernon, and ten miles from Alexandria. The larger portion of the road will not exceed an inclination of 1°; the greatest inclination not exceeding 2° 40', though the charter allows 4°. It will be finely shaded for nearly the entire distance, through a rolling country, and afford a commanding view of the Potomac, and must become an attractive resort, especially since the interruption of such travel by the iron horse on the Washington road. A lateral road, two miles long, will be made to Mount Vernon, to which place omnibuses will run daily, connecting with the Washington steamers at Alexandria, besides affording passengers an opportunity to visit the tomb of Washington by such conveyances, and at such times as may best suit their convenience. The road will probably be open for travel to Mount Vernon before the close of the year; and when five miles more has been completed, toll will be charged, and it is confidently expected that the road will be an excellent investment for the stockholders. J. A. Washington, esq., is President of the Company.

FREEMANS' HALL.—The Freemasons of Georgetown have purchased the brick buildings on the west side of High street, a few yards north of Bridge street, and are pulling them down, with a view to the erection of a new and handsome hall for the use of the brotherhood. The basement will be fitted up for rent as store rooms. The building will be an ornament to the town.—*Nat. Ed.*

A SPECIAL POLICEMAN APPOINTED.—Mayor Berrett has appointed Samuel Hadd to be a special policeman under the supplemental police law, vice Benjamin Kutz removed. The latter, on being appointed by the Mayor, and confirmed by the Board of Aldermen, got wind that a bench warrant had been asked for his arrest under a conviction before the criminal court for an aggravated assault upon a woman. To save himself from the penalty of that act, he chose to be now, and on duty as a policeman of Washington city.—*Wash. Star.*

ATTEMPT AT ASSASSINATION.—We have before us a note giving information of the assassination of a young gentleman named Keely of Petersburg, Va., on Sunday night, near the corner of G. and Twentieth streets, about 8 o'clock. This attack, it is said, was made with a knife, the blade passing through the coat, vest and other clothes, inflicting a slight flesh wound.—*Wash. Star.*

EDGEMONT HILL SCHOOL, GUINEY'S P. O., CAROLINE CO., VA.—This SCHOOL is preparatory to the University of Virginia. The 4th Session will commence on August 1st,